

GAZETTE

THE MAGAZINE FOR LEADERS IN THE BOYS' BRIGADE | WINTER 2014/15

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BOYS-BRIGADE.ORG.UK/GAZETTE

January 2015: Winter 2014/15

The **Gazette** is the official magazine of **The Boys' Brigade** in the United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland.

The Object of The Boys' Brigade

The advancement of Christ's kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-respect and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness.

Please send all contributions to
gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk

Official notices to members appear in the 'Informed' section of the magazine. Please note that views expressed in other articles by members and contributors are not necessarily those of The Boys' Brigade.

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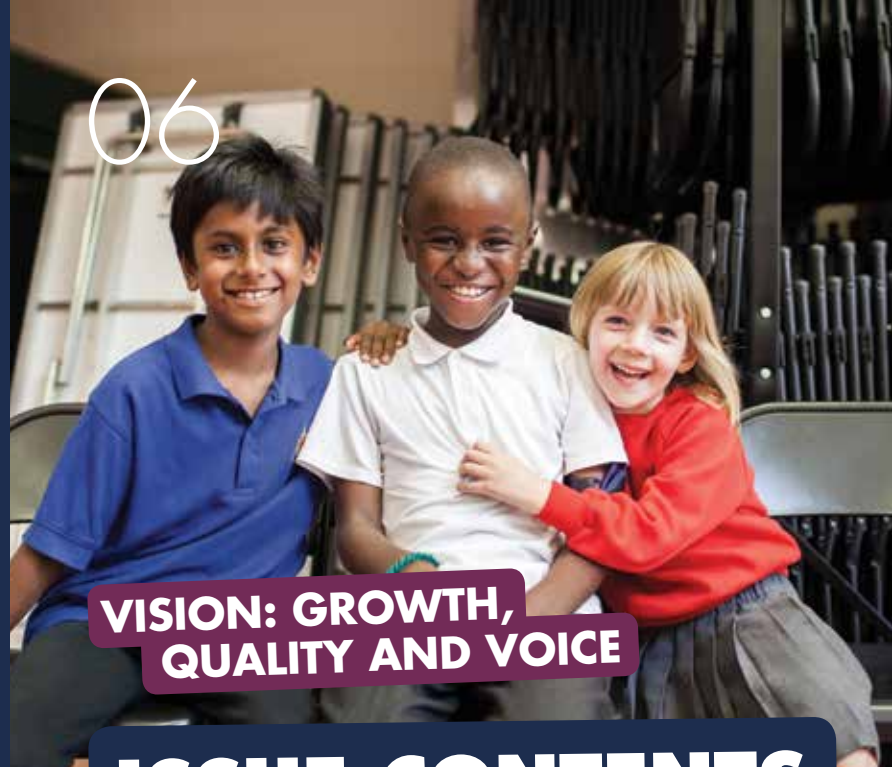
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VISION: GROWTH, QUALITY AND VOICE

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 1st Buckie Company on a residential



TOOLBOX: ADDITIONAL NEEDS



TOOLBOX: VOLUNTEERS



VOICE: SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



QUEEN'S BADGE CENTRAL PULLOUT



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WELCOME

Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever.

Many of us will have seen the film, “The King’s Speech”, telling of the battle the late King had overcoming his stammer and the support received from the speech therapist Lionel Logue.

The official photographs showing His Majesty at his desk wearing the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet, confident, speech in hand, when the reality was a standing, shirt sleeved monarch sweating over the words he was to utter.

In his live Christmas broadcast of 1939, the first Christmas of the war, the King said these words:

“A new year is at hand. We cannot tell what it will bring. If it brings peace, how thankful we shall all be. If it brings us continued struggle we shall remain undaunted.”

He went on to quote from Minnie Haskins’ poem “The Gate of the Year”.

I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied, ‘Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be better than light, and safer than a known way.’

As we enter 2015 we cannot know what it will bring; for some peace, for others struggle. But we do know that we do not enter it or travel alone. **Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever.**

I wish you every blessing for the year ahead.

Steve

Steve Dickinson
Brigade Secretary



Follow Steve on Twitter
[@sdickinsonbb](https://twitter.com/sdickinsonbb)



Steve with young people from his Company (7th Northampton) whilst in Jamaica supporting basic school provision.



THE PRESIDENT WITH MEMBERS OF THE NORTH WEST DISTRICT

My dear friends,

2014 has been a year played Fast Forward – it’s sped by and sometimes the rapidity of the movement has left me feeling like a spectator rather than a participant. And now, the long summer over, hissing and spluttering, it’s like a steam train being shunted into the sidings.

At last, I feel I have a vantage point from which to look back over this extraordinary year. There’s so much to remember. I can only hint at it all. The immense flood of 888,246 blood-red poppies at the Tower of London and all the ceremonies, films, displays, that marked the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War; my visit to the Old Trafford cricket ground as part of the centenary celebrations of the North West District; the slow but steady growth of “my own” Company, the 5th London (the “Dandies”); the BB Council in Glasgow; the letters of commendation I’ve written for young people who’ve shown immense courage in the way they’ve handled disability or faced unexpected challenges; my inspection of the Brigade Secretary’s Company in Northampton; - these and so many other experiences jog my memory at the turning of the year.

I’ve entertained some members in the House of Lords and, as I introduce them to our governing class, I feel my chest puffed up with pride as I explain to various VIPs who these young people are and how I have the privilege of being the President of the finest young people’s organisation in Britain.

So, it’s your proud President who greets you. I wish you well in all your endeavours. May 2015 be a good year for you personally, for the movement we all belong to, for the communities we are part of, for our country in an election year, and for the global village within which all of us live.

The Lord bless you and bless you kindly,

Leslie Griffiths

Leslie Griffiths
President of The Boys’ Brigade.



The Journey so far...

Over the last four issues of the Gazette different people have shared their vision for the Brigade based on the three main thrusts of the Development Plan – **Growth, Quality and Voice**.



Matthew Smith, Brigade Vice President and Chairman of the Brigade Executive started the series by looking at **Growth** and challenged Companies to devise a plan to enable growth to take place.



Andrew Kimmit, Vice Chairman of the Scotland Committee, began to consider **Quality** and asked of the 'Growing Bigger, Growing Better' campaign, "What does it mean to be better at being BB?"



Jonathan Eales, in his role as President of Northamptonshire Battalion, again looked at **Quality** and the role of the Battalion in enriching the experience for young people and providing support for leaders.



I completed the short series by looking at **Voice**, embedding youth participation into all levels of the movement and putting our "Faith in Young People" strapline into practice.

So we all know that the Brigade has a Development Plan. We all, I hope, can remember its three areas of Growth, Quality and Voice, but what difference has it made for you in your Company and your Battalion? Is the Plan for someone else, a document to be taken out and dusted off at Brigade Executive meetings or does it truly get to the root of and begin to address the common issues that face the majority of us, at whatever level(s) we work?



Article Continued →



FAITH IN YOUNG PEOPLE

GROWTH

There have been very encouraging signs of **growth** with new Companies being started in areas where this has been the focus. This has gone some way towards one of the outcomes of the growth agenda – **increased capacity of local groups so that every child and young person can access the BB wherever they live.** The funding received under the Social Inclusion Programme has enabled Development Workers to start or relaunch work in areas of low provision enabling greater access. One specific action was to **start new work both in churches and other community facilities.** A very pleasing result of this initiative is the developing relationship with the African/ Caribbean churches and the Brigade has recently appointed a worker specifically to build greater links. There is an exciting partnership developing with the Redeemed Christian Church of God, work in primary Schools has started in Stoke on Trent, a new group is underway at Wetherby Young Offenders' Institute and at Winson Green Prison in Birmingham BB provides activities for children of visitors.

However, I am fully aware of the challenges that many existing Companies face and the perennial issue of sufficient volunteer leaders; it is rare for a Company to close because of lack of young people. The Brigade has invested in recruitment resources for young people and I hear accounts of these being used very successfully, and although there are still many Companies that could cope with additional members, the greater challenge is to attract new leaders and retain existing ones. I am constantly amazed at the dedication and commitment of our leaders, but there are numerically successful Companies where if one key adult was removed, the picture could be very different.

QUALITY

Company Captains are key to the success of a Company and one of the **Quality** actions is **to give all Captains the opportunity to attend development training.** Development days and residentials for Captains and those aspiring to the role have received positive feedback from participants and the mixture of encouragement, challenge and reflection has led to changes in practice and a renewed sense of purpose and mission. If you've not been able to attend, then give this some serious consideration.

A part of our drive to **improve our communications** has been the new look Gazette which hopefully leaders have found of benefit in their work with children and young people.

VOICE

Linking to the **Voice** agenda the Brigade has partnered the Step up to Serve and #iwill campaign, pledging to create more places for young people and embedding participation and youth social action throughout the organisation. Read about Craig's and Kenneth's youth action journeys in this Gazette on page 42.

So as you can see we have made a positive start on the actions, but there is much still to do. The Brigade faces common issues whether your Company is in Liverpool, Glasgow or Belfast and the Development Plan seeks to make inroads into these, but it needs everyone to own it. It's not the plan of the Executive, or a Regional Committee, or the Staff, it's the plan for the Brigade and we all have a part to play.

I encourage you in your first staff meeting of 2015 to consider Growth, Quality and Voice and make it OUR plan.

Steve Dickinson

Brigade Secretary



Follow Steve on Twitter
@sdickinsonbb

THE WAY I SEE IT



Don't look back in anger

I'm not a big Oasis fan (don't shout at me if you are it's just that I'm a bit more of a soul man!), but undeniably they have written some great songs. Now "Don't look back in anger" is not a particularly festive song, but it is a great title for an end of year Gazette article!

I wonder as you look back at the past year, are there things you wish you hadn't done, or things you wish hadn't happened? It's easy to let them affect you (I know I have these struggles too). Sometimes, if I'm honest, I quite like mulling them over and feeling anger towards the moment or person, but in truth facing another year and carrying them forward is not good for us.

At this time of year we join hands and sing "May auld acquaintance be forgot..." (I can hear it now) but in reality these are often only words we sing rather than a reality we live! I love the bit in the Bible where it says, "Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you". Whilst the rest of the world

thinks about these worries at moments such as New Year's Eve, we have this most amazing truth - every moment with God offers us an opportunity to move on and not be held back. Okay it's tricky and hard working this out at times, but it is nevertheless a hope we have and a possibility in the God we serve.

As you move into 2015 may I encourage you to not only leave some things behind, but to make some changes for the future?

Whatever happens to you this year, do not let it be something you have to try and move on from next year. Try to make a habit each day of asking God to help you deal with things in the moment and ask God to remind you how much you have been forgiven by Him (have a read of the unmerciful servant found in Matthew 18:23-35).

I pray you have a great 2015.

Mark Greenwood



MARK GREENWOOD

Mark Greenwood is an evangelist working for the Forty-Three Trust

Mark Greenwood is an evangelist working for the Forty-Three Trust and finds himself travelling across the country to speak at churches and other events. Mark is no stranger to The Boys' Brigade having been a speaker at Firm Foundations, as well as at many other BB events around the country through the years. He is a keen Bradford City fan, he loves coffee (bit of a coffee snob), curry, reading, playing the guitar and visiting the cinema (nowhere near enough). He is married with two daughters and currently lives in Warwickshire. He has the best sideburns in the world.

In 2015 Mark will be speaking at the Unite event being run by BB England, being asked his expectations for the event he said "I cannot wait to be at Unite and am praying for an amazing time. There is something quite unique about going away and engaging with God with a bunch of people. I'm really excited about this new camp and want to encourage as many people as possible to come".



Find out more about Mark and the Forty-Three Trust at...
fortythreetrust.com



Celebrating the success of SIP

On December 10th, members from new BB Companies along with other Youth United groups created through the Supporting Inclusion Programme gathered for a star-studded event in the Speaker's Rooms at the House of Commons.



In the glow of the magnificent Christmas tree, Communities' Secretary Eric Pickles met the young people, saying it was "the best £10M I've ever spent."

Also in attendance were Youth United's star supporters Jermain Jackman, the winner of The Voice and DJ Nihal, the award winning BBC broadcaster, who stressed the importance of investing in young people and offering those from disadvantaged areas opportunities for the future.

The Brigade was represented by new leader Lionel Brooks from 1st Hackney and young people from 1st Fegg Hayes and 1st Hackney Companies.

Your FAQ's Answered

Members of staff provide answers to those questions that we regularly get asked at Headquarters.

Q Can I change my personal details such as address, telephone number or email online?

A Chris Norman, who is the IT/Communications Manager at BBHQ provides this answer:

"Yes, just log on to the Membership Portal, to do this go to the BB website (www.boys-brigade.org.uk) and click on the 'Membership Portal' link at the bottom of the page (in the blue bar). You will then need to log on using your Leader Registration Number and password (if you don't have a password just click the 'Forgotten it' link next to the password box to be sent a new password, even if you have never logged in before!). Once logged in you will see your details under 'Own Data' and if you are a Company Captain or Battalion Secretary/President you will also see the details for your Company/Battalion as applicable. Company Captains can update contact details for all leaders in the Company. So ensure you stay up to date with communications from HQ by checking your details are up to date by logging on today."

Q If there is an accident during a BB activity, where should it be recorded and when do I need to inform Brigade Headquarters?

A Jonathan Eales, who is the Business Director at BBHQ provides this answer:

"All accidents should be recorded in an accident book at the time (often at the premises where the accident happened). BB Headquarters should be notified using the Accident Notification Form for all injuries that require professional medical attention, whether that be at the time of the accident or in the following days (eg: visit to Doctor or hospital). It is important that these accidents are notified as soon as possible after they occur. If you have any questions regarding insurance please contact Jonathan Eales at jonathan.eales@boys-brigade.org.uk."

@ If you have a question that you can't find the answer for then please email and we will do our best to help you:
gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk

President's Commendations

The President's Commendation has recently been awarded to:



Matthew Davis – 1st Carrowdore

On the 26th October 2014 John Neil OBE, Honorary Brigade President, presented Matthew with his President's Commendation. Matthew, who has Asperger's Syndrome, unexpectedly collapsed and became paralysed from the waist down. Matthew spent months in hospital and was eventually diagnosed with a condition in which pressure across the spinal cord can cause permanent paralysis. He has made a partial recovery, but now uses a wheelchair for mobility. Since January 2013 he has been playing wheelchair basketball with the Knights Wheelchair Basketball Club and is regularly selected for the Northern Ireland Under 19 Squad. He has shown great determination in pursuing his involvement in the Brigade, which offers him friendship and support with his Asperger's Syndrome and confinement to a wheelchair.



John Blair – 1st Barrhead

On the 5th October 2014 Alistair Burrow, Brigade Vice President, presented John with his President's Commendation. John has been a member of the Company for 12 years and has never missed a session in the whole of this time. John has a mild form of Cerebral Palsy and some learning difficulties. He gets so much from attending the BB and has attained new levels of self-confidence, so much so that he has been able to make his own way to and from college this session. John has recently registered for a gold entry to the DofE scheme and he will be extending his QB service activities to fulfil the award requirements.



Taylor Roberts – 1st Bromborough

On the 4th October 2014 the Brigade President, Lord Griffiths, presented Taylor with his President's Commendation. Taylor has several medical conditions and uses a wheelchair for mobility and copes very well with his daily life. He has been in the Company Section for nearly five years and has worked to his highest capability throughout this time and has consistently been one of the Company's keenest members thoroughly enjoying all the activities.

Welcome to our New Companies

It's fantastic that we can report that the following Companies have recently enrolled:

COMPANY	CAPTAIN	CHURCH
1 st Belturbet	Rodney Keyes	Belturbet Church, Republic of Ireland
1 st Cury	Patricia Monks	St Corentin, Cury C of E Primary School, Cornwall
4 th Manchester	Cynthia Tchifounga	Eglise En Mission, Manchester
1 st Pitsea	Sharnette Bailey-Ekerin	RCCG Majesty Connections, Essex
25 th Sheffield	Raymond Dokothon	Ecclesia Kingdom Ministries, Sheffield
1 st Stornoway	Rev. William Heenan	St Columba's Church, Western Isles

Development Update

Welcoming new members of our Development Team

Following on from the last issue of the Gazette where we announced we had received funding from the Uniformed Youth Social Action Fund through Youth United, we are pleased to announce the appointment of a number of new Development Workers. Below each of the workers shares a little about themselves and what they will be doing in their roles.

Gareth Hillier - Wales



"I am a passionate Welsh man born and bred, but unfortunately not able to speak the mother tongue. I have not always lived in Wales and spent a couple of years in Sydney, Australia soaking up the sun and eating plenty of "shrimps off the barbie". In Sydney I met my lovely wife

Lois. For the last ten years I have been involved in both voluntary and employed youth work for local churches and the council. Helping local churches reach out to their community and create a home where children and young people can belong and develop is one of my greatest passions."

Jackie Wilson - South of Scotland



"I have been married for 35 years and been part of 1st Millport Company for 37 years, becoming Company Captain back in 1992. I am also the Training Convenor for North Ayrshire Battalion. Volunteering as an officer has enabled me to meet new people, make new friends, gain

confidence and learn new skills. I enjoy being a member of Cumbrae Dramatic Club and getting involved with local events and activities and am looking forward to taking up my new post."

Vicky Flanagan - Northern Ireland



"Hi! My name is Vicky Flanagan and I am the Development Worker for Northern Ireland. Before taking up this role I was a youth development worker in a local church for a little more than six years. I have a real passion for youth ministry and supporting young people and I am

so excited about the possibilities and challenges this role holds. In June of this year I married my husband Matthew and we have two lovely little kittens. We attend our local Elim church and are actively involved in youth work."

Patricia Farrell - African & Caribbean Churches



"I am the Development Worker with responsibility for supporting the work in African & Caribbean Churches and working alongside the other Development workers as we all seek to extend our work within these communities. I am a member of the

Wesleyan Holiness Church in Leeds and have many passions, my love for God, my family and I became a Sunday school teacher very early in life. I am a member of the West Yorkshire African Caribbean Council of Churches and am really excited about promoting The Boys' Brigade within the African & Caribbean Church communities."

The BB Mountaineering Club

In 2015 the BB Mountaineering Club celebrates its 50th anniversary. Currently the Club runs monthly meets throughout the year and also runs training courses such as outdoor first aid and the BB Expedition and Outdoor Leadership Certificate. The BBMC is now seeking to attract new members and qualified leaders in order to be able to offer a wider range of activities to both young people and adult volunteers.



More information can be obtained from the Club's website bbmc.boys-brigade.org.uk



If you wish to receive an information pack, then please contact the secretary, Andy Holland at: bbmountaineeringclub@gmail.com

Key Volunteer Vacancy

Do you have professional expertise in Health & Safety matters?

The Brigade is looking for a volunteer with a NEBOSH General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety or equivalent qualification to support the staff team and Trustees to ensure our processes and guidance remain up to date and compliant.



Full details of the remit of the role can be found at: boys-brigade.org.uk/vacancies.htm

Make a Difference Awards 2014

Celebrating inspirational children and young people

Well done to the young people recognised for their inspirational efforts through the Make a Difference Awards 2014.



Northern Ireland



Winner:
Jack Agnew

Jack has become an inspiration to all that know him and for the wider community in Belfast through his sporting success. Jack was born with spina bifida and is a wheelchair user, and life has been tough, with knock-backs through the years, but he has always strived to overcome his disability through his love of sport. Jack has been playing wheelchair basketball since the age of 6, playing for NI Knights and has represented Northern Ireland since 2007. In April 2014 after recently taking up wheelchair racing Jack took part in the London Marathon's Wheelchair Race, after setting his sights on competing against the very best young wheelchair athletes in the UK, and at his first attempt won the race. Jack is an individual who shows that anything is possible with hard work and determination.

Scotland



Winner:
John Blair - 1st Barrhead

John has carried out a considerable amount of volunteering and fundraising for the Accord Hospice Charity Shop and for other local charities. He has also dedicated many hours volunteering at his own church and BB Company.

Runners-Up:

Lewis Craigie – 1st Campsie
Andrew Ferguson – 1st Vale of Leven
Cameron Burns – 28th Stirling

England



Winner:
Daniel Cooke – 7th Doncaster

Daniel was nominated for his volunteering work with the Support Dogs charity. He represents the charity at galas and events, raising the profile and informing the public. Daniel is also registered as a collector for the charity and he assists with training his mother's support dog. He has spent approximately 80 hours over the past 10 months on supporting this charity and has gained a bronze Young Volunteers' Certificate.

Runners-Up:

Oliver Sheldon - 7th North Staffordshire
Megan Hallam - 19th Nottingham
Mathew Hamilton - 45th Nottingham
Finley Clark - 5th Plymouth Company

Have you considered nominating someone in your Company for a Go MAD Award?

We all know children and young people (5 to 19 years old) who make a significant difference in the lives of others. We want to recognize commitment through the Go Make a Difference awards to acknowledge, encourage, reward and most importantly promote the positive achievements of our young people.

Nominations are open until end of June 2015



To download the nomination form or to see the full stories behind what these young people have been doing for others and in their community: boys-brigade.org.uk/gomad

Obituaries

We record to the right the names of BB members who have recently died. We thank God for their faithful service to the Brigade and Church and their witness in the community.



A full obituary appears on the BB website at boys-brigade.org.uk/obituaries

Canon Jim Hamilton	North West District
Leslie Albert Paskell	3 rd Tottenham
Thomas Noy Silvester	1 st Ashton in Makerfield
Eric Thomson	Paisley Battalion

YOUR VIEWS AND NEWS



Twins raise funds with book launch

Some time ago, 1st Cumnock announced that they needed to raise money to help save their hall.

John and his twin brother Garry (aged 9¾) jumped into action and John decided to finish a book he had been writing for some six months to help the cause. Garry illustrated the book which is entitled 'The Mysterious Castle' and the book was published and went on sale on the 28th October 2014 on Amazon for £3.98.

John and Garry have been featured in the Chronicle and the Ayrshire Post and have raised almost £1,000 for their section to date. John has his own Facebook page to promote the book (closely monitored by his father) and also a website at: www.johnedwardsavage.co.uk



Andrew Wilson @Andy_Wilson1
1st Carrickfergus BB @theboysbrigade recently climbed Slieve Donard & took the highest selfie in NI @ 2,790 ft / 850m



Youngsters join together for Maze Adventure

Members of the 49th Liverpool joined Brownie friends from their home church (St Christopher's, Norris Green) taking 21 BB members for a great day out to Brimstage Maze on the Wirral. The theme at the 49th Liverpool this year is Friendship and this was shown in abundance as the young members made friends, not just with their Brownie friends from St Christopher's, but also with the other uniformed groups there on the day.



Portsmouth Lads enjoy Weekend Adventure

Boys from the 4th Portsmouth enjoyed a weekend camp in October with activities including a 14km walk, and a visit to Hollycombe Steam Collection, where they got to ride the narrow gauge railway and have fun in the fairground.



The Boys' Brigade Bug Bed & Breakfast

Members of 1st Tralee following their involvement in the Remembrance Day Service at St. John's Church Tralee, pictured with their nature project which they had put together - a bug hotel called "The BBBB&B".



Sarah Whitty @Sar_Whitty
@14thWBBB @theboysbrigade A poppy made out of handprints...made by the Anchors for church on Sunday :)



Scotland's Growing Bigger, Growing Better 1000km Challenge

Companies across Scotland were challenged to help walk the length and breadth of Scotland to support the Growing Bigger, Growing Better campaign... find out what they got up to:





Curling Adventure for 66th Aberdeen

Company Section members attended their annual Curling evening at Curl Aberdeen. The boys received some expert coaching before being split into teams for a fiercely fought competition. Definitely some future curlers in the making and a great night was had by all!



Agent H accepts cheque for Hospice

Company Section & Senior members from 1st Stewarton this year chose to raise money for Ayrshire Hospice, using either change from their tuck or by having less from the tuck shop and donating the money they had with them. As a result they raised £200, a fantastic amount considering it is just their "tuck change". Agent H accepted the cheque on behalf of the hospice along with one of the Board Directors, Mr John Corrigan who gave a talk to the boys about the hospice and how the money would be used.

Voyage on board TS Royalist

In the summer Declan McDowell of 1st Ossett enjoyed a once in a lifetime experience along with 23 other young people from other Youth United organisations. They spent the week living on board the Sea Cadet flagship, TS Royalist, sailing from Newcastle to Inverness on a challenging six-day voyage. Declan took part in a range of maritime activities including hoisting the sails, anchor watch and learning to tie nautical knots. Declan particularly enjoyed climbing to the first stage of the rigging and down, then up to stage two and back down.

SNAPSHOTS



London young people join forces for Band Tour

Young people from the 2nd West Kent and 14th West Kent Companies, joined forces with the 5th Croydon Pipe Band and Girls' Brigade members from Minster as part of the Blackpool Band Tour. Along with a number of other Companies they stayed at North West District's Residential Centre in Kirkham for the week-long tour. The Band played on Blackpool seafront on a number of occasions, as well as being joined by young people from Companies across Manchester for a Church Parade on the Sunday. The young people also went to an activity centre, got a tour of the Blackpool Lights and did a number of activities at their base at Kirkham including a Camp Concert.



1st Slough Anchors raise money for 'Help for Heroes'

To mark Remembrance Day 1st Slough held a special evening of events, which included a sponsored penalty shoot-out. The boys did brilliantly, one of them scoring a massive 9 goals in one minute against one of the young leaders! In total they raised £74.12 and all the money raised was donated to Help for Heroes.



3rd Carrickfergus BB @3rdCarrickBB
Fantastic night at our @theboysbrigade enrolment service! #Godisgood #blessed

MY EXPERIENCE

We thought it would be great to speak to some Junior Section members about their BB experiences, ambitions and more – here's what they said...

Alasdair Baillie

Age 9, 4th Stirling Company

"The photo is of me with John and his rescue dog Tess at our recent visit to the Ochils Mountain Rescue Centre in Clackmannanshire."



Q If you could be any superhero, who would it be?

A "Superman because he helps people."

Q What's your favourite part of Junior Section?

A "The trips and sleepovers - we make friends and get to do stuff."

Q How would you sum up BB in three words?

A "Amazing, cool, brilliant"

Q If you were BB captain, what's the first decision you would make?

A "To take everyone on a trip"

Q What do you want to be when you're older?

A "Policeman or soldier or agent or surgeon"

Lewis Thomson

Age 10, 3rd Perth Company

Q If you could be any superhero, who would it be?

A "Thor"

Q What's your favourite part of Junior Section?

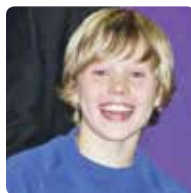
A "Sporting activities and competitions"

Q How would you sum up BB in three words?

A "Fun, adventurous, amazing"

Q If you were BB captain, what's the first decision you would make?

A "More outdoor activities."



Zach Dane

Aged 10, 1st Lisburn Company

Q If you could be any superhero, who would it be?

A "The Hulk!"

Q What's your favourite part of Junior Section?

A "Playing football and Bible stories."

Q How would you sum up BB in three words?

A "Fun, exciting, enjoyable."

Q If you were BB captain, what's the first decision you would make?

A "Take the whole company to Old Trafford to watch Manchester United!"



Oliver John Terrell

Aged 10, 2nd Stoke Sub Hamdon Company

Q If you could be any superhero, who would it be?

A "I would be the Invisible Man!"

Q What's your favourite part of Junior Section?

A "I like the fun atmosphere and activities."

Q How would you sum up BB in three words?

A "fun, educational and exciting!"

Q If you were BB captain, what's the first decision you would make?

A "I would like more links and contact with other Boys' Brigade groups."

Q What do you want to be when you're older?

A "I would like to be either a geologist, meteorologist, marine biologist, volcanologist."



RESOURCE

GREAT ACTIVITIES & IDEAS FOR YOUR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Welcome to the Winter 2014/15 programme supplement, showcasing some great activities and ideas that you could use in your Company.

Resource Bank

Selection of resources with activities and ideas for all sections



Kids Sunday School Place

Kids Sunday School Place is your online source for fresh, creative Children's Ministry resources for under 11's. Featuring complete lessons, Bible crafts, Christian activities, object lessons, stories, skits, games, songs, and much more.

Check out kidssundayschool.com



NHS Change4Life

Change4Life has lots of healthy eating tips and recipes, and fun ways to exercise.

Check out nhs.uk/change4life (England & Wales), takelifeon.co.uk (Scotland), getalifegetactive.com (Northern Ireland)



My BB Resources

A regularly updated blog by BB leader Vicki Brownlee from 5th Hull Company. The blog contains lots of ideas for all ages including crafts, games, themes, etc.

Check out mybbresources.wordpress.com

? The Answer's Out There

We often find that leaders face similar issues running their sections whether the group meets in Paisley or Plympton, Reading or Route.

Do you have a question that you would like to ask other leaders?

We will look to share your question with leaders across the Brigade and include a selection of responses in the next issue of the Gazette.

 Send your question(s) to gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk

🗨 Your Help

RESOURCE is all about sharing what works well for you in your Company with others. Could you contribute a game, craft, devotional or themed night idea for the Spring 2015 issue? Send it to gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk

Please indicate something about why this idea works well in your Company.

Check out the programme ideas and resources for your section:

 20 Anchors

 23 Juniors

 26 Discover

 29 Challenge Plus

Great activities & ideas for your section:

Programme Planning

Some ideas to help you with your programme planning over the next few months:



5 JAN – 13 FEB Big Schools Birdwatch

Get involved for just an hour between these dates in the annual survey, with ideas and resources available to help you.

Check out rspb.org.uk/schoolswatch/



12 MAR Plant a Flower Day

The aim of this day is to plant flowers, e.g. in your church or somewhere in the local community. Planting is the process to place a seed or plant in soil or other substrate in order that it may live and grow.



15 MAR Mothering Sunday

Celebrate Mothering Sunday; make Mums or loved ones a card, or how about a coupon book of promises and favours!

Get Creative: Ladybird Stones



Equipment

- ★ Stones/Pebbles
- ★ Red & Black Acrylic Paint
- ★ Black Permanent Marker Pens
- ★ Googly eyes
- ★ Glue (if eyes are not self-adhesive)

Prepare first!

Clean pebbles thoroughly. If you only have a short period of time, not enough for paint to dry then paint each of the stones, top of the stone red and bottom of the stone black

Instructions

1. Paint the top of the stone red and bottom of the stone black (unless already done by leader in preparation).
2. Using a black permanent marker pen, draw a line down the middle of the red side and colour in a small portion at the front.
3. Stick on the googly eyes on the black part at the front.
4. Finally using a black permanent marker pen put dots all over the red part of the stone.

Alternative Idea: Using yellow paint, the same process can be used to create Bumble Bees.



Shared by
Ian Crawford, 35th Liverpool

Theme Ideas



Get your section into Easter with these themed ideas:

01 Easter Chick



Equipment

- ★ Yellow paper cups
- ★ Orange card
- ★ Wiggle eyes (2 for each)
- ★ Orange pipe cleaners
- ★ Yellow craft feathers
- ★ Yellow shredded/tissue paper
- ★ Scissors
- ★ Glue / Glue dots (or stapler)

Prepare First!

Cut out shapes/items as below so children are ready to assemble:

1. Cut a small triangle from the orange card (beak).
2. Cut orange pipe cleaners into short pieces (feet).

Instructions

1. Take the yellow cup and stick the beak to the front of the cup, then stick the wiggle eyes above the beak.
2. Staple or tape a few feathers to the back edge of the cup, making sure they peek out over the top.
3. Twist three pieces of the cut down orange pipe cleaners together at one end for each foot and attach the two feet to the front of the cup with glue.

4. Fill with yellow shredded paper or tissue and some sweets/chocolate!

02 Easter Lilies



Equipment:

- ★ Pipe Cleaners 1 yellow, 3 green (for each child)
- ★ Pipe Cleaner for ribbon, or curling ribbon (for each child)
- ★ Sticky Tape
- ★ Scissors
- ★ Pencil
- ★ White 100gsm Paper

Instructions

1. Trace child's hand onto the white paper with a pencil and cut out, do this 3 times for 3 lily blooms.
3. Roll the paper handprint vertically to form a funnel shape. When this is complete then secure the side with sticky tape.
4. Roll each paper hand's finger down to form the curls of each flower bloom.
5. Cut the yellow chenille stem / pipe cleaner to approx eight centimetres each. Now loosely bend the yellow piece to form a 'U' shape. Wrap the top of one of the green pipe cleaners at the bottom of the 'U'. Curl the ends of the yellow pipe cleaner to form the center of the flower's bloom.
6. Insert the completed green Lily stem into the centre of the flower's bloom and pull through.
7. Gather the Lilies / flowers and wrap the pink pipe cleaner once around the stems to fasten together. Then make one loop for the ribbon and wrap around, repeat for 2nd loop.



Shared by
Mairi Dunn, 1st Annan

03 Egg Snatch

One child is the chicken and sits in the centre of the circle, blindfolded, guarding the Easter Egg. A nominated child has to move around the circle as silently as possible and creep in and steal the egg. If the chicken hears the intruder and points at them shouting "thief" before the egg is stolen the theft is foiled. Keep changing the children's roles.

04 Egg Match

Put one set of cards on a table at one end of your meeting space. Get the children in to teams and give each child one of the matching cards. One at a time they run to the table and find the matching Easter Egg, the first team to find all matching Easter Eggs is the winner. Download cards at:



www.activityvillage.co.uk/easter-egg-matching-game

05 Easter Egg Hunt

An old favourite, hide eggs around your premises, the hunt area will depend on your premises and the number of staff available to supervise.

06 Getting into the Bible

There are many animated versions of the Easter story on YouTube, why not do a search and show the children the video. Be sure to watch the animation first to be ready for the questions that the children may ask or to look for the points you want to emphasise.

You could also print out these key parts of the story below, and ask the children to draw something to depict each part of the story:

- ✂ **Jesus rides into Jerusalem**
- ✂ **Jesus eats a last meal with his friends**
- ✂ **Betrayed by Judas**
- ✂ **Jesus is arrested**
- ✂ **Jesus dies on a cross**
- ✂ **Jesus is put in a tomb which is guarded**
- ✂ **The tomb is empty. Jesus has risen**

Alternatively you could link this with the Easter Egg Hunt and have each of the above parts of the story in different places on your church premises, go to each location and tell that part of the story and then allow the children to hunt for the eggs before moving on to the next location.

Get Active: Postboxes

Split children into teams, set up a table somewhere in your meeting space on which you should place envelopes (or just sheets of paper) with different addresses on e.g. School, Bank, Butchers, Dentist etc.

Around the room place postboxes with corresponding addresses, you could use chairs with an open back for this or just use boxes. One at a time each member of the team must pick up a letter and post it into the correct postbox before running back to tag the next person in the team. The winners are the team who deliver all their post first.

You can purchase a ready-made game made by Orchard Toys to use to play, buy online from Amazon or also available from most toyshops/supermarkets.

 **Shared by**
Ross Playle, 1st Chancellors Ford

? The Answer's Out There

For this issue we asked the following... **"We often have parents/carers waiting around to drop off and collect how could we engage with them during this time?"**

In response to this a number of leaders have shared their thoughts.

"We have parents and carers from Anchors and Juniors who wait in our church coffee shop during our meetings. We provide free coffee or tea and weekly quiz sheet devised by a member of staff. A member of staff who takes subs is stationed in the coffee shop engaging on a variety of subjects."

Duncan Daniels, Captain 1st Droitwich Spa

"As Brigades' Chaplain I wait with parents at the end of the evening so I can engage in conversation. We have a good attendance at our 4 parades a year and engage with parents at this time as well."

Mick Daulman, 1st Rugby

@ Do you have a question that you would like to ask other leaders?

Send your question to gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk and we will feature a question with a number of responses in future issues of the Gazette.

Juniors RESOURCE**Great activities & ideas for your section:****Programme Planning**

Some ideas to help you with your programme planning over the next few months:

**17 FEB Shrove Tuesday**

Get flipping those pancakes in preparation for the start of lent and the build up to Easter. How about making pancakes, encouraging the children to give something up for lent?

**5 MAR World Book Day**

Get involved in this annual day, you could ask children to bring in and do a show and tell with their favourite book, make a short story/picture book, or read an extract from an old favourite.

Check out worldbookday.com

**28 MAR WWF Earth Hour**

Earth Hour 2015 will be taking place at 8.30pm on Saturday 28th March, with switch offs starting in Samoa and finishing in Tahiti. Get your children thinking about our planet, could they encourage local business and places in your community to switch off for Earth hour?

Check out earthhour.wwf.org.uk

**23 APR St. George's Day**

Celebrate St George's Day, England's national day. You could share one of the best-known stories about Saint George, is his fight with a dragon or learn about some of England's customs/traditions.

Get Creative: Glass Painting**Equipment**

- ★ Glass (for each child)
- ★ Glass paint (red, blue and yellow should be sufficient)
- ★ Paint brushes (enough for different colours and based on number of children)

Prepare First!

Take a single colour of the glass paint (preferably black or white) and draw out a design on the glass; the less complex, the better, for example a flower for

Mother's Day or writing the word "DAD" for Father's Day. Allow to dry.

Instructions

- 1.** Children decorate the glass and the design previously drawn using paints.
- 2.** Cook the glasses on a low light (Gas Mark 1) for 30 minutes and allow to cool gradually.
- 4.** Add a hand full of chocolates to make it the perfect gift.

 **Shared by:**
Andrew McCaldon, 35th Liverpool

Theme Ideas



Why not turn your meeting place into a grand prix circuit for the night with these themed ideas.

01 Racing – What it's all about!

The 2015 Formula One season starts in March 2015. Get the children thinking about F1, start by showing a photograph of a driver celebrating after a race or if possible a video clip of a race including a pit stop.

Explain that although it's the person at the wheel who gets all the attention, Formula One is very much a team sport, with hundreds of people working behind the scenes to make sure that it's their driver who gets the chequered flag.

Do a bit of research beforehand, and then start by finding out how much the children know about Formula One, and see how many different teams (*Mercedes, Red Bull Racing-Renault, Williams-Mercedes, Ferrari, McLaren-Mercedes, Lotus-Renault, STR-Renault, etc*) and drivers (*Lewis Hamilton, Nico Rosberg, Daniel Ricciardo, Valtteri Bottas, Sebastian Vettel, Fernando Alonso, Felipe Massa, Jenson Button, etc*) they can name. Does anybody know which team and/or which driver won last season or is top at the moment (check beforehand).

 For more information about Formula One Visit: formula1.com

02 Mario Kart

Have you got a games console with Mario Kart Grand Prix (or other suitable driving game) you could setup and run races on throughout the evening. Record times for each child to see who is the fastest.

03 Remote Control or Scalextric

Have you got a remote control car or Scalextric set? Either of these could be a great activity for the children to have a go at. If you don't have either you can buy remote control cars for as little as £10 for a number of retailers, and setup a circuit with cones around your meeting space. Setup a board and record names and times.

04 Build a Car



Make your own balloon car, and then get ready to race the cars.

Equipment

- ★ Paper plate (for each child)
- ★ Cardboard
- ★ Straws (non flexible, 5 for each child)
- ★ Wooden skewer (for each child)
- ★ Balloon (for each child)
- ★ Sticky tape
- ★ Stapler
- ★ Scissors

Instructions

1. Make the plate into a triangle shape and secure with a staple at each end.
2. Tape a straw approx. 3cm in from each end of the plate, straws can be cut if sticking out too far at the sides.
3. Using a small circular object (approx 3cm), trace 4 circles onto cardboard for the wheels and cut out.
4. Pierce the centre of each wheel with the skewer. Don't make the hole too big because you don't want the wheels to spin on the skewer.
5. Put the skewer through one of the straws affixed to the bottom of the plate and add the wheel to the other side and cut the skewer as necessary. Do this for the other set of wheels as well.
6. Next tape 3 straws together (with tape the entire length of the straws to keep air from escaping). Then taped the balloon opening to the end of the straws so that the balloon can be blown up from the other end. This is a good time for the children to experiment and see where air is escaping. Then affix straws inside the paper plate to the bottom of the car.
7. The car is now complete and ready, blow up the balloon and release!

05 Getting into the Bible: We all have a role to play

The key message:

That we all have gifts, things that we are good at, we enjoy doing, given by God. We should try our best at what we are good at, help others with our gifts, these gifts that we have are for the good of everyone.



Read Romans 12:6-8:

So like the Formula 1 racing teams we need to work together, share our gifts, our skills, our talents. Remember that the driver in the racing car would not be there without the mechanics, lollipop man (the person that guides drivers into the pits), race director and other members of their teams.

We all have a role to play, and we should remember that it's a team effort, we can't and won't be good at everything. We need help, God has given each of us gifts/skills so that we can work together. So don't worry if you're not as good at something as the person sitting next to you, we all have different gifts, and God loves us all the same – nobody is more important than anybody else.

06 Mario Kart Wordsearch

A Mario Kart themed wordsearch for the children to enjoy.



Download from:

<http://mybbresources.files.wordpress.com/2014/05/mario-kart.pdf>



Get Active: Crab Football



Get the children into two teams and choose which side they will defend. Have the players sit on their bottom with their feet flat on the floor. Both hands should be palms down with fingers pointing away from their body. Players should then push their body up with their hands and feet and walk like a crab. No player is allowed to stand up or walk during the game.

Each player has to move in a crab walk position throughout the game, and try to kick the ball into the other team's goal. Set a score to be achieved, and the first team to reach it wins. Try and encourage children to spread out and not all chase the ball. A giant ball (50cm diameter) work well and will make it easier for the players, make sure any ball being used is a soft foam or light air ball.

? The Answer's Out There

For this issue we asked the following... "Our regular meeting space is too restrictive and limits what we can do, what can we do about this?"

In response to this a number of leaders have shared their thoughts.



"It might be possible to arrange your programme so that, say, once a month, you meet in a different venue with more space: a school gym hall, for example. Whilst prices for hiring such venues vary wildly, if you're only getting them infrequently, it should be manageable. More and more these days, schools are learning the value of outdoor learning and lessons are taking place in the playground, field or somewhere else in the community."

Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling



"Our own BB HQ doesn't allow us to play football in the hall but we can do other games so tailor activities to suit the restrictions of the building. For certain activities we hire other venues and also arrange off site visits to do activities - Halfords have offered to run some bike maintenance sessions at their store for us."

Andrew Baldwin, 1st Tewkesbury



Find out what others said online at:

boys-brigade.org.uk/answersouthere.htm



Do you have a question that you would like to ask other leaders?

Send your question to gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk and we will feature a question with a number of responses in future issues of the Gazette.

Great activities & ideas for your section:

Planning your Programme

Some ideas to help you with your programme planning over the next few months:



25 JAN Burns' Night

Could you celebrate Burns' Night in your Company? It is the annual celebration held on the birthday of poet Robert Burns, who was one of the most iconic and well known Scots. It's also a celebration of being Scottish! People eat haggis, neeps and tatties, go to ceilidh dances, listen to traditional Scottish music and wear tartan



19 FEB Chinese New Year

Why not find out more about Chinese New Year? Share in the celebrations, see if there is a local event you could attend. Check out the themed ideas in this issue.



13 MAR Red Nose Day is back!

This year people are being given the opportunity to do good in their neighbourhood by becoming Red Nose Day social entrepreneurs. To find out more, and to order your FREE Youth Group fundraising pack, head to rednoseday.com/youthgroups

Get Thinking: Marshmallow Tower

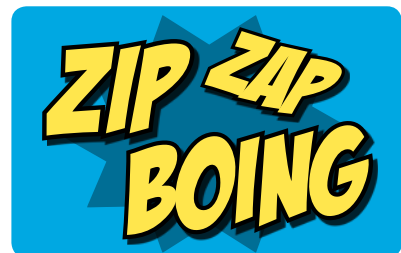


A great game to get young people thinking, it's fun but will get young people working as a team, communicating, problem solving and bring out leadership skills.

All you need is packets of marshmallows and spaghetti. Split the young people into groups (4-6 persons) and the goal is to see which group builds the highest tower using only the items provided.

The towers must be stable and standing within the set time frame.

Get Active: Zip, Zap, Boing



This is a quick fire circle game with some funny actions. Get the young people standing in a circle, and start off by teaching them the action for 'zip' (hands clasped and pointed like a gun with a 'zip' sounds effect). You use zip to pass around the circle, if somebody says zip to you, then you turn to the person the other side and zip them, making the sound and doing the action.

Next, teach them 'zap', similar to zip but this time the action goes across the circle to somebody else. So the zips go around the circle until somebody decides to zap across the circle. The recipient then decides to zip to their left or right hand side or zap across the circle. Once the group has had a bit of practice, eliminate those who do not respond or do not respond correctly.

Finally add in 'boing', the action for which is a star jump with the word boing. Boing sends the zip or zap back to the person who sent it to you. Continue trying to catch out as many as possible, who should sit when out.

Theme Ideas



福 CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year is a very important holiday in China. It is celebrated in late January to early February (depending on the year). It is also called the Spring Festival because it marks the end of the winter and the beginning of the spring in the Chinese calendar. Chinese New Year starts on a New Moon and ends with the lantern festival on the full moon 15 days later.

In 2015, Chinese New Year starts on February 19th. In the Chinese calendar, it is the year 4712, and the Year of the Goat.

A common Chinese New Year's greeting in Cantonese is "Gung hay fat choy," which means "May you become prosperous." On Chinese New Year, the themes of happiness, wealth, and longevity are celebrated. On Chinese New Year, families reunite, special foods are eaten, fireworks are lit, and children receive money in lucky red paper envelopes.

You could try out learning and saying some Mandarin words/phrases, go online for audio clips etc.

01 Simple Chinese cooking - Chinese Fried Rice



Ingredients/Equipment (for each young person/pair)

- ★ 3/4 Cup finely chopped onion
- ★ 3 drops soy sauce
- ★ Cooked Chicken or Pork, chopped
- ★ Chopped carrot (very small)
- ★ 1/2 Cup Frozen peas, thawed
- ★ 4 cups cold cooked rice, grains separated
- ★ 2 tablespoons light soy sauce (add more if you like)
- ★ 1 or 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- ★ Frying Oil
- ★ Wok/Frying Pan
- ★ Frying Slice
- ★ Fork

Instructions

1. Prepare all ingredients before starting to cook and have close at hand.
2. Heat oil in frying pan; wait until it is sizzling hot.
3. Add meat, carrots, peas and stir until lightly cooked.
4. Add rice and cook for about 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.
5. Add soy sauce, and stir occasionally for another 2 minutes.
6. Move ingredients over to one side to leave some space in the frying pan, crack egg into pan and let cook for 30 seconds. With fork, scramble and then combine with rice. You could cook egg in different pan if desired or space/equipment available.
7. It's ready to serve and enjoy!

TIP – Whenever cooking it is always advisable for you to try it out first and ensure it works for you, so you know what equipment will be needed and times, etc as things may vary based on equipment etc.

02 Chopstick Challenge

Set up a challenge for the young people such as transferring dried peas from one bowl to another using chopsticks. See how many can be transferred in a set time.

Having prepared the fried rice as per the recipe above, provide chopsticks for the young people to sample their produce.

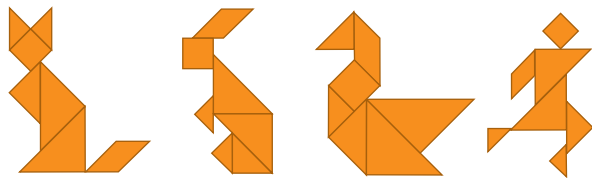
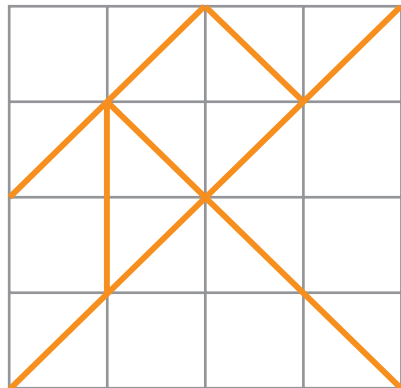
03 Tangram puzzles

Equipment

- ★ Square piece of paper – better effect if coloured paper used
- ★ Scissors
- ★ Pencil
- ★ Ruler

Instructions

1. Fold the square of paper in half, then in half again (dividing into quarters). Repeat this step resulting in a square divided into sixteenths.
2. Draw lines as shown in diagram (orange lines).
3. Cut along the lines (as per orange lines in diagram) to produce seven pieces
4. Arrange the shapes to produce a range of figures and objects – see if you can invent new ones.



04 Getting into the Bible: Long chopsticks in Heaven and Hell

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said, "Lord, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like." The Lord led the holy man to two doors. He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in. In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table were large plates of foods of all kinds which smelled delicious and made the holy man's mouth water. The people sitting around the table were thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding very long handled chopsticks and each could reach the food on the table, but because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the food back into their mouths. The holy man shuddered at the sight of their misery and suffering.

The Lord said, "You have seen Hell".

They went to the next room and opened the door. It was exactly the same as the first one. There was the large round table with the plates of food which made the holy man's mouth water. The people were equipped with the same long-handled chopsticks, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking. The holy man said, "I don't understand." "It is simple," said the Lord, "it requires but one skill. To feed each other."

05 Share in the Celebrations

See if there is a local event for Chinese New Year taking place that you could organise for your Company to attend. There are events in some towns and cities, with the biggest being in Central London on Sunday 22nd February.

? The Answer's Out There

For this issue we asked the following...

"We've young people who, for a variety of reasons have irregular attendance at BB. Is this a problem?"

In response to this a number of leaders have shared their thoughts.

"Continuity is good, but teenagers have 'very busy' lives, I think BB Companies should be happy to receive any children as little or often as they can make it. At Company Section level it is difficult to keep teenagers, so you can't discard them for not turning up much, just welcome them each time they do come".

Arron Bilsbrough, 19th Nottingham

"We believe as long as they keep coming and are kept up to date with events it shouldn't be a major issue".

Carol Ferguson, 5th Clydebank



Find out what others said online at:

boys-brigade.org.uk/answersoutthere.htm

CHALLENGE PLUS

RESOURCE

Great activities & ideas for your section:

Ultimate CHALLENGE PLUS

Ultimate Challenge Plus is a nationwide competition for Seniors, now in its second year. Seniors will compete with others from around Scotland without having to leave their hall, and without having to use specialist or expensive equipment.

All of the challenges have been designed so they can be completed either indoors or outdoors, with minimal equipment. All you need to take part is a measuring tape, two cones and a cane (or be imaginative and create the speed bounce!), and a hall which is large enough to run in. A gym mat can be used for added comfort, but isn't essential.

With the competition being on an individual basis, it means you can participate, even as the only Senior in your Company. If you are the only Senior though, why not join with another local Company and take part together?

There is a mix of physical and mental challenges. The physical challenges will test speed, agility, endurance and core-strength, whilst the mental challenges test your awareness, observation and concentration skills.



The Challenges



Press Ups



Sit-Ups



Speed Bounce



Standing Long Jump



Plank



Speed Test



Cooper Run



Mental Challenges

Fitness Competition?

Why not run this as a fitness competition, whilst tracking progress over a set period. This could be done on a Company or Battalion basis, with every Senior being able to take part and see the progress they make.

For those working in Scotland, this forms the basis for the 'Ultimate Challenge Plus' competition for Seniors. Results to be included in the competition must be submitted by Friday 24th April 2015.



You can download the **Ultimate Challenge Plus Pack** which contains full details including instructions for each of the challenges from: scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk/seniorsandyoungle.htm



If you have any questions or suggestions please contact: paul.oshea.boys-brigade.org.uk

Get Talking- Two Extremes

A game of two extremes! This is a great way to get young people talking, and sharing their preferences or views on topics.

Create an imaginary line from one end of the room to the other. Instruct the young people to move to a point on the line to indicate where they stand on a particular issue. For example move to one end of the meeting space if you like chocolate, the other end if you prefer fruit. If some don't have a strong opinion they can stand in the middle or anywhere in between.

When everyone chooses a position you could find out why some people have decided that, and then read out the next one and everyone moves again.

Some other examples to get you going:

Sleep	vs	Get up Early
Dance Music	vs	Pop Music
Football Match	vs	Concert
Camping	vs	Hotel
Sweet	vs	Savoury
Facebook	vs	Twitter
Summer	vs	Winter

The Answer's Out There

For this issue we asked the following... **"Should being in the BB be all about leadership post 15?"**

In response to this a number of leaders have shared their thoughts.

"I think it needs to be a balance, our Seniors are enjoying the chance to be involved in taking crafts with Anchors & Juniors, taking group games, sorting tuck shop out, and looking after and looking out for the younger members. But once a month they get a longer night for them, they have an hour or so to themselves and as much as possible is run themselves."

Sam Goodman, 2nd Derby

"No! Being in the BB post 15 shouldn't be all about leadership. It should still be fun, it should be exciting, interesting and challenging - an opportunity to feel part of a 'team' in the broadest sense with teenage peers who also collaborate with their Leaders to develop, design and implement their programme. However, when a Young Person shows the interest and aptitude for leadership the opportunity should be taken to encourage participation at Company level, develop a feel of "putting something back" and encouraging that emerging sense of responsibility".

Malcolm Binks, Brigade Training Officer

"Seniors should be much more than leadership - though leadership can come from it! It's about having a great time with your mates - enjoying spending time together - creating memories and bonds that will last. Our Seniors want to be there because this is their Company and they are investing their time and talents into it."

Ian Rumbelow, 2nd Stoke-sub-Hamdon

"Absolutely not. It simply is NOT what boys all want to do. The seniors' programme, as well as the QB Skills Courses, when they were changed about ten years ago now, were re-designed to reflect this. We must recognise that boys don't all want to become officers, nor necessarily even leaders within whatever profession or trade they go into. In all honesty, many of them won't know what they want to do and I think our role is provide lots of experiences, challenges, role models, transferable skills and recognition of their talents and interests, which, combined, will serve to increase their confidence, whether that's used to lead or follow in future".

Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling

Find out what others said online at:
boys-brigade.org.uk/answersoutthere.htm

FOCUS ENGLAND



f /theboysbrigade
@theboysbrigade

Development Focus

Hemlington is a settlement within the town of Middlesbrough with a population of approx. 5990, 1230 of which are aged 0-15 years old. 51% of the population live in social housing with a 55% employment rate and 46% of all school children eligible for free school meals.

St Timothy's C of E church was looking for a uniformed youth organisation with which to partner to provide positive activities for young people; something with a Christian ethos providing good quality children's and youth work for both boys and girls, and chose to partner with The Boys' Brigade. They wanted a programme that taught life skills and recognised achievement, that also had a uniform to help bring a sense of identity, belonging, and pride.

Following on from this the 1st Hemlington Company was started in October 2013 and now has 20 Anchors and 18 Juniors plus 5 members in the recently formed Company Section.

Rev Rob Desics, Chaplain to the Company said "The support we have received has enabled us to lift the aspirations of children and young people in this area through a structured environment, something that is frequently lacking in their lives."

The Company has also seen the positive impact on the community from the provision of a tea and coffee lounge for the parents/carers to wait in whilst their young people attend. It has provided the opportunity for parents/carers to meet others and build friendships, helping to further strengthen the local community.

WHAT'S ON - ENGLAND



28 MAR & 25 APR

National Music Festivals 2015

Do you play a musical instrument or sing? If so why not take part in one of this year's festivals?
natbrass.boys-brigade.org.uk/brassfest.htm

9 MAY The Big Night Out 2015

Take your young people along to TBNO in 2015, held at Lightwater Valley. thebignightout.org.uk

Unite 2015

The planning team has been overwhelmed by the support and positive encouragement from leaders and young people about Unite. The countdown is now on to get booking forms in with the closing date being **20th January 2015**. Unite will take place from **29th to 31st May 2015** at Felden Lodge, with tickets at £50 (un-catered) per person or £65 (catered) per person. The event is open to those aged 11+ in The Boys' Brigade (including Girls' Association and Amicus), The Girls' Brigade and church youth groups.

Unite will be the best camp ever! Mark Greenwood is headlining the event for the worship side of things and there is an action packed planned programme for activities.

Find out more by visiting:
unitebb.org.uk

Are you up for the Challenge?

Do you have young people in your BB Company aged between 15 and 17 who are looking to build skills for work and life? Are they working towards their Queen's Badge and looking for a social action project in their local community?

The Boys' Brigade in partnership with the National Citizen Service (NCS) is seeking BB young people for its NCS Challenge Programme, aimed at creating exciting and fun challenges to develop personal and team building skills, whilst working on a 30 hour community action project, which can be used towards the Queen's Badge Award.

Every young person who signs up is eligible for a £100 grant towards costs for taking part. And, there are also incentives for your BB Company / Battalion who refer members, including exciting prizes!

Interested? Then visit:
boys-brigade.org.uk/ncschallenge.htm

6 JUN Marching Band Championship

Find out more about how your band can take part in this event and join hundreds of other young people in 2015.
showcasemarchingbands.co.uk

4 JULY Athletics Birmingham

Watch out for more information about this event, which will be sent out shortly.

For a full list of dates go to:
england.boys-brigade.org.uk



f /theboysbrigadeinscotland
@thebbscotland

BB Leaders take part in BBC Quiz Show

Five BB leaders have taken part in a BBC quiz show 'Eggheads'. The team made up of Stuart Rankin (15th Coatbridge), Brian Horne (163rd Glasgow Company), Alan Brown (45th Glasgow Company), Donald Armour and John Armour (both 268th Glasgow Company) competed well, only to be defeated in 'sudden death'.

Captains' Day in Aberdeen

A special one-day training event for Captains took place in Aberdeen in mid-November. New and existing Captains got the opportunity to participate in sessions led by members of the Scotland Development Team. Further similar events are being planned for other areas.

WHAT'S ON - SCOTLAND



7 MAR National Cross-Country, Tulliallan

6-8 APR Discover Sports Camp, Carronvale

8-10 APR Scottish HQ QB Residential – Carronvale

15 APR Seniors' Sevens, Stirling

25 APR Bands Contest, Musselburgh

For further information visit:
scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk

1,000Km challenge

Hundreds of BB members participated in 'Growing Bigger, Growing Better: 1,000Km Challenge'. A range of imaginative and exciting activities took place including 267 laps of the James Hamilton Heritage Loch by 4th East Kilbride, whilst 470 BB members from Airdrie & Coatbridge Battalion ran round the loch at Drumpellier Country Park, adding 9km to the national total. Members of the 51st Bonnyrigg Company completed 28km during a weekend of activities, which included walking, swimming and football.

See the highlights at
bb1000km.blogspot.co.uk



Juniors Giant Sleepover

Over 400 Junior Section members from across Scotland took part in a giant sleepover at Glasgow Science Centre 7th – 8th November 2014. They visited the Planetarium; attended a live science show, engaged in hundreds of interactive exhibits before getting into their sleeping bags and spending the night amongst the exhibits. The furthest travelled young people were from Dornoch, Sutherland, who were joined by BB members from Whithorn, Aberdeenshire and Central Scotland.

Youth Work Conference

BB Scotland was represented at the recent National Youth Work Conference run by YouthLink Scotland in Cumbernauld. The main focus for this year was 'Digital Youth Work' – about making the most of online and technology in our work with young people. Delegates heard from Scottish Government Minister Aileen Campbell MSP and SCVO Director for Digital, Chris Yeo. To find out more about BB's plans for digital, contact Niall Rolland at Carronvale.

Easter Sports Camp

Home to BB HQ in Scotland, Carronvale House, will again play host to the 'Discover Sports Camp' from 6th to 8th April. An exciting programme with common and more unusual sports is lined up. For further information about this Company Section event:

Please email...
paul.oshea@boys-brigade.org.uk



f /theboysbrigadeinwales
@BB_Wales

Climbing, Swinging & Balance

Celtic Manor in Newport has hosted a number of high profile events on the world stage including the Ryder Cup and NATO Summit. Another fine event to recently take place at Celtic Manor was an Adventure Activity Day attended by young people from Companies across the region. A cold wet Sunday afternoon wasn't enough to put off the youngsters taking part in a fun, but challenging afternoon of climbing, swinging and balancing high above the trees at the manor's fantastic high ropes course. All those that attended had a fantastic time, and it was great that everyone completed the course, with many overcoming their fears along the way.

Development update

Gareth Hillier, Development Worker for Wales shares something of his activity over the last few months:

"It's been a busy few months in Wales with many events and training courses. As the Gazette goes to press we are launching two new Companies in North Wales, one in Wrexham and the other in Llay. We are really excited about these developments, which will strengthen our work in the north of the region. In the New Year we are also looking forward to the launch of another new Company in Cardiff, which will expand our work further in the Cardiff area."

WHAT'S ON - WALES



28 MAR BB in Wales Conference

For a full list of dates go to:
boysbrigadewales.org.uk

WALES: 02920 483555 The Boys' Brigade, 58 Richmond Road, Roath, Cardiff, CF24 3AT



The BBs Got Talent

Whether they choose to do something a bit different or a classic favourite, young people can use their energy and skill set to impress their peers, leaders, parents and community. The Juniors BBs Got Talent Competition will take place in Dundrum Methodist Church on Saturday, 21st March 2015. Get your young people working on their talents now!

WHAT'S ON - R.O.I



6-8 MAR Company Section Activity Weekend

18-19 APR Juniors Activity Weekend

7 MAY Annual Council Meeting

16-17 MAY Juniors Activity Weekend



Aviva Stadium Tour

Did you know that Aviva Stadium was built on one of the oldest sports grounds in the world? Did you know that the first ever international athletic meeting happened on Lansdowne Road in 1876? A guided tour of Aviva Stadium home of Irish football and rugby is a fun, informative and unforgettable experience for adults and children. The tour includes visits to the home dressing room, players' tunnel, pitchside, press room and much more. The District has arranged a tour which will take place on Thursday, 19th February 2015.

For a full list of dates go to:
boysbrigade.ie

FOCUS NORTHERN IRELAND



Royal Visit to Newport

HRH The Earl of Wessex visited the new Northern Ireland District Headquarters at Newport on Wednesday 24th September 2014. The Royal visitor had an opportunity to meet young people, leaders and other guests, as well as view a number of camping and cooking demonstrations carried out by DofE participants.

During his visit His Royal Highness presented the District with its Duke of Edinburgh's Award Operating Licence. It is notable to mention that as well as playing a significant role in introducing, promoting and overseeing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Northern Ireland for over 50 years, The Boys' Brigade in Northern Ireland has supported over 2,000 members to achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold awards in the last 5 years.

Prior to departure, The Earl of Wessex was invited to sign the visitors' book and plant a tree to commemorate the visit to the new premises.

WHAT'S ON - N.IRELAND

- 26 JAN** **Craft Evening (Working with Under 11s)**
- 31 JAN** **Anchor Boy Fun & Games Final**
- 07 FEB** **Company Section Squad Drill Final**
- 21 FEB** **Junior Section Swimming Gala**

For a full list of dates go to:
ni.boys-brigade.org.uk



'Opening New Doors'

Northern Ireland District has recently launched 'Opening New Doors' a fundraising campaign for the new headquarters and residential premises at Newport, Hillsborough, County Down. During the session there will be a number of events and activities to help raise funds. An activity which all BB members can easily get involved in will be filling Smarties tubes with 20p coins. In addition to this there will be a Gala Dinner & Auction taking place on 21st February 2015 in the Island Hall, Island Centre, Lisburn and a golf day on Friday 1st May 2015 in Killymoon Golf Club, Cookstown.

The District is looking for good quality saleable items to be donated for the auction at the dinner and for an online auction, which will be going live in Spring 2015.

Further information on the fundraising for Newport is available from the dedicated fundraising website at www.bbnewportfundraising.org or from NI Headquarters.

You Matter

The District has published two new additions to its 'You Matter' pastoral care leaflet series – 'Exam Pressures' and 'Don't be Bullied'. These resources were developed after consultation with Company and Senior Section members who identified issues important to them. The leaflets are intended for use by leaders during badge classes, Bible classes or as the need arises. There are now four leaflets in the series, which also includes 'Family Relationships' and 'Having a Good Life'.

TOOLBOX



MAKING YOUR COMPANY INCLUSIVE: FIVE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD

Welcoming children and young people with additional needs

The BB has a long and proud history of welcoming children and young people of all abilities and from all backgrounds. This we can rightly celebrate. Sometimes though, we want to be more inclusive but we think it will be difficult – for us or for the other children or we just don't feel confident in having children with additional needs.

- 01 It's good for all the children**
An inclusive Company isn't just good for children with additional needs – it's good for every child. Most BB Companies have children from a range of abilities – we can't cram square pegs into round holes so why not have holes of every shape and size? It's a way to celebrate all kinds of strengths rather than just having a programme that all must fit into. We begin to see children as individuals rather than either "normal" or "special needs".
- 02 You get good volunteers**
Most parents of children with additional needs are keen for them to be included and may be able to offer to help. Their expertise and motivation are going to be an asset to your Company. As we know, many leaders who started as Helpers when their own children joined will stay on even after the children have left.
- 03 It helps children to accept and celebrate difference**
We might say "It's not ok to bully people who are different to us" but unless our children form relationships with a whole range of different people they will have little chance to learn, to see the person and not the disability (or skin colour or faith etc).
- 04 It's good for the community**
We say that BB is the bridge from the Church into the community. What better way of serving your community than a message of welcome to all children?
- 05 It's the right thing to do**
Enough said.
"We want to be more inclusive but feel we lack the skills"
It's understandable to feel uncertain about how best to welcome children with additional needs, but willingness and an open mind are the best start you could have. A good relationship with the parents or carers will be helpful, as they will know their child best and have a strong interest in helping you to include him or her.

Article Continued →

Resources

To enable you to feel supported and more confident, the BB has some resources to help you:



Training

Leaders can book onto one of our “Working with Challenging Behaviour” courses or ask their Battalion Training Convenor to arrange a workshop for your Company. Karen Jay at BBHQ can arrange for more specialist training or advice if you have a particular need or just wish to develop your knowledge in this area.



Printed resources

We have an ever-expanding library of advice leaflets on our website. These leaflets are written by BB leaders and help leaders to focus on what a young person can do – not their limitations.

The following leaflets can be found online:

- [Hearing Impairment](#)
- [Visual Impairment](#)
- [Downs Syndrome](#)
- [Dyspraxia](#)
- [Epilepsy 1](#)
- [Epilepsy 2](#)
- [Expressive Language Difficulties](#)
- [Autistic Spectrum Disorder](#)
- [ADHD \(Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder\)](#)
- [Asperger's Syndrome](#)
- [Asthma](#)
- [Cerebral Palsy](#)
- [Diabetes](#)
- [Dyslexia](#)
- [Moderate Learning Difficulties](#)
- [Muscular Dystrophy](#)
- [Poor Listening Skills](#)
- [Receptive Language Difficulties](#)
- [Visual Impairment](#)
- [Wheelchair User](#)

Have a look at them at:
www.boys-brigade.org.uk/dan.htm



Disability Advice Network

The Disability Advice Network (or DAN) is a group of BB leaders (and former leaders) with specialist knowledge in a range of disabilities, impairments and behavioural disorders. For example, DAN member Trevor Barnes regularly helps BB leaders to adapt their programmes and activities to enable inclusion of children with Cerebral Palsy.

Trevor recently advised Queen's Badge Adviser, David Owens, on how to adapt the Queen's Badge programme so a young person with Cerebral Palsy and impaired vision could achieve his award. The same young man, Taylor Roberts of 1st Bromsborough Company was recently awarded the President's Commendation by the Brigade President for his determination to overcome his health difficulties as well as for his cheerful and enthusiastic attitude to all that the BB offers.

We have DAN advisers in all BB regions and they are happy to help. Just contact Karen Jay at BB Headquarters who will put you in contact with the most suitable adviser.

“We wanted to make sure we could provide a good experience at BB for a child with Cerebral Palsy, and knew that we wouldn't be the first Company looking for some advice. So after looking on the BB website we came across the Disability Advice Network and got in touch with Karen Jay at BB Headquarters. Karen put us in touch with a member of DAN, it was great to be able to talk to someone who could help us understand more about the condition and give us the advice and confidence that we needed to ensure we could provide a good experience for this young person.”

- Elaine Park, 4th/5th Kilmarnock

Karen Jay

Director of Youth & Children's Work



If you have any questions then get in touch at
karen.jay@boys-brigade.org.uk

Finally a couple of thoughts...



“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

- Mark Twain



“The world worries about disability more than disabled people do.”

- Warwick Davis



Recruiting, retaining and rewarding volunteers

In our work with young people, having enough of the right people building the positive relationships is essential.

Paul O'Shea, Development Worker in Lanarkshire, provides some insight on how to welcome and attract new volunteers, how to introduce them to the BB and what steps can help keep a volunteer team motivated and resourced. Many volunteer-led organisations, like The Boys' Brigade, are looking for more people to get involved, so it is key that we try to vary our volunteer recruitment methods.

Before embarking on the drive to recruit additional volunteers, consider these three simple steps:

- 01 What's your need?**
Do you need additional volunteers across the board or is one of the age groups under-staffed? Do you need additional help with a particular activity? Do you need help each meeting or could occasional help relieve the pressure?
- 02 What's the volunteer's motivation?**
Consider all of the things that would motivate a potential volunteer. Think of why you work with children and young people.
- 03 What's your message?**
Having considered the two points above, how will you sell this and show how a volunteer will make a real difference?

The Need

Why do you want volunteers? Begin by deciding what the priority needs are for your Company. Do you want leaders who will commit on a regular basis or are there tasks that could be taken from other leaders to relieve pressure on them? There might be volunteers willing to take on some 'backroom' tasks such as collecting subs or getting the squash and biscuits ready which means that other leaders can be 'freed' to work with the children and young people?

Compile a task list of the things that need doing and create roles, using a simple job description. This can sound like 'going over the top' but it is far easier to recruit new volunteers when there is a clearly defined role with a specific time commitment.



The Motivation

On the whole people don't usually volunteer for the sake of it; they usually have a clear idea of what they'd like to be involved in or want to be 'sold' a reason to volunteer.

Possible motivations for volunteering might include:

- A commitment to the organisation
- Sharing their faith
- Wanting to make a difference
- Supporting their own children
- Gaining skills for a CV

All are perfectly valid reasons for taking on different roles.

Article Continued →

The Message

Remember to sell the benefits of volunteering in your Company and create a clear message tailored to the work you want volunteers to do. Where possible a personal approach is more likely to succeed than a general appeal. Clear communication is key and let potential volunteers know that you recognise the skills and potential they have.

Make sure you explain:

- What the voluntary work is
- What The Boys' Brigade is and does
- How they could make a difference
- How they could find out more

Remember that different aspects of BB will appeal to different people. Wherever possible be flexible and adapt the volunteering opportunity to meet and individual's needs and personal situation.

So now let's consider from where we might recruit volunteers:

Seniors & young leaders - Try to give consideration to the Seniors programme and, in particular, ensure that the young people feel valued in their voluntary role leading sessions with younger members. Skills courses for President's and Queen's Badges are designed to equip Seniors with the skills and ideas to help deliver programmes in the Company. It's a good idea to ask them what they have learned and give them opportunities to put these new skills into practice.



“ Keeping hold of young people when they grow up and moving them on into leadership has been a key success of The Boys' Brigade over the years. ”

Young leaders in the local community. For instance, local Duke of Edinburgh's Award groups could benefit from BB volunteering opportunities. Also, making contact with further education institutions may be a source of volunteers. Local college and university Students may need non-work placements - for instance, in care and sports based subjects. An additional young leader or helper can make all the difference to the smoothness of an evening programme.

Recruitment Resources

A range of leaflets, posters and other resources have been produced and are available FREE OF CHARGE to Companies to support volunteer recruitment.



To access these resources go to: boys-brigade.org.uk/recruitment/



Have you challenged **members of your church** to volunteer and support the work of the Company? Making the church congregation aware that you have a need for volunteers may well produce some willing and passionate offers of help.



“ Every volunteer will benefit the group in different ways. Whether they are a college student or at university, someone at work, or retired, you will need to think about how you can reach these people and what they can offer in return. ”



It's important not to disregard your most immediate network. **Parents/carers/family members** are aware of the huge benefits of BB membership to young people and a personal approach to them for help may be very worthwhile. In fact, recent figures suggest that 41% of non-volunteers would say 'yes' to volunteering if directly asked.

We can be successful in recruiting new volunteers, but it is important to consider how you welcome them to BB work.

In order to provide new volunteers with key information, have material that introduces them to the BB and the different roles within the Company. This could take the form of a leaflet, as well as a briefing with Captain or other appropriate leader. It is crucial that you find out why they want to volunteer, and what their skill-set is, to help ensure their objectives are met alongside those of the Company.

Also, key to any introduction is providing a chance for new volunteers to meet the rest of the staff team including the Chaplain/Minister. This also provides an opportunity to become familiar with the facilities and equipment. Wherever possible, try to ensure that newly appointed leaders have a clearly defined role, so they know what is expected of them, but also have an understanding of the roles others have in the Company .



Top Tip!

One of the best ways to develop volunteers' skills is to set aside time now and again to sit down with them and have a chat about how they feel it is going and where they experience difficulties.



Our work with young people can be hugely rewarding. Nevertheless, there are times that we can feel fatigued, or even under-valued. Having a motivated and valued volunteer team not only helps retain volunteers, but can also have a huge impact in the quality of our programmes.



Consultation

Regularly seek volunteers' opinions to ensure they feel valued. This could take the form of formal staff meetings, but also a short chat at the end of a BB evening, or even at a social occasion. Your Chaplain/ Minister should also play a key role in supporting leaders in the Company.



Responsibility

Consider allowing other volunteers the lead for specific projects or programmes. This can allow new skills as well as valuable confidence to be developed.



Ongoing Training

Consider how is best to equip volunteers with the necessary skills in their roles. Try to encourage additional training, workshops and courses. Remember- these don't necessarily need to be BB courses to be useful.



Flexibility

Be understanding that as volunteers, perfect attendance is difficult to achieve. Not every volunteer can provide the same level of time –commitment as others. The hour a week or a couple of hours a month may not be as much as you would like, but might provide a good balance and help you get the best from a particular volunteer.

Our work with children and young people is not driven by reward. However, there is no reason why volunteering in The Boys' Brigade should not be celebrated and recognised more widely.



You could look into nominating volunteers at national/local youth work or similar awards. There are a variety of these out there and there is also a focus around 'Volunteers Week'.

However, recognition through simpler means can also be very effective. A "well done" or "congratulations" can help boost someone's confidence and ensure that their contribution is not going unnoticed. The BB's Long Service awards are another way of recognising volunteers; these are available through Battalions for 15, 20 and 30 years' service.

You can get further tips and advice by taking a look at the 'Volunteer Recruitment Toolbox' which can be downloaded from the BB website at boys-brigade.org.uk/recruitment/ or obtained through your Regional Headquarters.



Follow Paul on Twitter
[@paulBBscotland](https://twitter.com/paulBBscotland)



£11,000 for Young People in Czech Republic

BB members from across Scotland have helped to raise an impressive £11,000 for young people in the Czech Republic, through a year of fundraising efforts for the Church of Scotland World Mission Fund.

A cheque was handed over to The Right Reverend John Chalmers, Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland at an evening ceremony at Daziel St Andrew's Parish Church in Motherwell. The new appeal 'Speak Up: Speak Out' will help fund schools in Trinidad and Tobago produce a resource about anti-bullying for every child.



For full details visit:
worldmissionfund.org.uk



Young Leaders' Network off to Rome

The Summer of 2015 will see the YLN travel to the beautiful Italian capital, Rome. Following on from successful trips to Lisbon and Copenhagen, BB seniors and young leaders from across Scotland will have a chance to enjoy another international experience.



please email...
niall.rolland@boys-brigade.org.uk

FDF National Camp 2016

The FDF's National Camp is held every 5 years and will next take place from **7th to 15th July 2016**. A number of BB Companies have joined our friends in Denmark in years gone by; could your Company/Battalion/District take a group along in 2016? Watch out for more details.

EF launch new Website

Check out the new website and find out more about the opportunities available through the European Fellowship.



For full details visit:
europeanfellowship.org

Global Round-up

A snapshot of what is going on in BB and Global Fellowship member organisations around the globe



MIRI CHRISTMAS PARADE

An 80+ strong BB/GB contingent from the 5th Miri Company in Malaysia took part in their local Christmas Parade.



CANOEING ADVENTURE DOWN UNDER

Members of the 9th New South Wales Epping Company in Australia had a Juniors Father and Son Camp, with canoeing just one of the activities they took part in.



SANDAKAN MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Members of 1st Sandakan & 5th Sandakan Company in Malaysia at Sandakan Memorial Day Parade.



NEW SOUTH WALES QUEEN'S BADGES

BB members in New South Wales State, Australia received their Queen's Badges at Government House.



SINGAPORE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

As part of a Company exchange programme, members of 11th Singapore visited the 3rd Nakhon Ratchasima Company in Thailand. Joining them on their Company Camp, the Singapore team took the opportunity to introduce the bagpipe to the Thai BB members.



HAPPY GO LUCKY CAMP

Members of 19th Malaysia (Penang) Company at their recent Happy Go Lucky Camp.



Find out more about what is going on around the globe by 'liking' Global Fellowship Facebook page.
facebook.com/globalfellowship



Serving others in our communities

Monday 24th November saw the first anniversary of the launch of Step up to Serve, the campaign to double the number of young people involved in social action by the year 2020.

Social action is 'practical action in the service of others that creates a double benefit', a benefit is to the young people themselves and the communities in which they live. As part of the #iwill campaign The Boys' Brigade has pledged to increase the number of places available for children and young people and to promote opportunities for social action across all age groups. The campaign builds on what the Brigade already offers to young people in terms of organisational and community volunteering opportunities.

At the first anniversary celebrations at the O2, 400 hundred supporters gathered to hear messages of support from The Prince of Wales and the Prime Minister and the 50 #iwill ambassadors were on hand to share their social action stories.



Two of the ambassadors were from The Boys' Brigade and both had volunteering experiences within BB and also within the wider community. Here are some of their experiences:

**Kenneth Watson, 17,
93rd Glasgow Company**



"Social action has had a huge impact on me as a person, as well as those I'm helping. Through school and The Boys' Brigade, I've become so much more confident, especially at public speaking. I've also seen first-hand how much difference I can make to another young person's life.

"Seeing someone else benefit from what you have taught them is the greatest reward of coaching."

**Craig Bateman, 17,
1st Kidderminster Company**



"I have always had a genuine passion for using my skills to make a difference in my local community. To be appointed an #iwill ambassador will enable me to create new and exciting opportunities for the next generation.

"As an ambassador, I will work to ensure that young people have a voice, influence and a place in society, making sure that they are at the centre of key decision-making and are a real driving force in planning for the future."

Get involved by asking young people in your Company about social action:

-  How have you got involved in social action before – at BB, at school, or elsewhere?
-  By helping others, what sort of skills would you develop? What about the benefit to the wider community?
-  Consider ways you can get involved, or highlight your current social action work

 For info on Step Up to Serve and the work of the #iwill ambassadors visit:
iwill.org.uk

 Share how BB young people are serving others in their communities:
gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk

 Tweet us
@BBgazette and use #iwill and #BBvoice

GET INVOLVED



Macmillan Cancer Support

Sophie Gargan from Macmillan shares with us what the charity provides and how your Company might be able to get involved to help support the work that Macmillan Cancer Support does week in week out.

A cancer diagnosis can turn lives upside down. It's a devastating disease with many people living with its long-term side effects.

Whether it's concerns about who you can talk to, planning for the extra costs or what to do about work, at Macmillan Cancer Support we understand how a cancer diagnosis can affect everything.

Macmillan is absolutely determined to be there for everyone affected by cancer, including families and carers. We are the doctors, nurses and therapists helping people through treatment. We are the experts on the phone. We are the advisers telling people which benefits they are entitled to. We provide financial grants that make a huge difference. At Macmillan, we are there for people of all ages and with all types of cancer.

"I decided I wanted to give something back immediately" Being diagnosed with colon cancer at 27 came as quite a shock to Thom. But with the help of Denise and the staff at the Mustard Tree Centre in Plymouth he was able to get back on his feet. Now he's decided to give something back by raising money to fund Macmillan's vital services. For example Thom organised a cricket match which raised £20,000 and now wants to scale even greater heights, literally, by climbing Everest.

We can't improve cancer care all on our own. We need to inspire millions of people to support us and get involved with our work.

Fact or Fiction?

There are a lot of myths surrounding cancer that are simply not true. Do you and your young people know the facts?

-  **Cancer is contagious – False.**
Cancer is not contagious which means you can't catch it from someone else.
-  **The earlier someone gets treated for their cancer, the better – True.**
If a cancer is diagnosed and treated at an early stage when the cancer has not spread far, the chances of the person surviving it are a lot higher.
-  **There are 12 different types of cancer – False.**
There are more than 200 types of cancer. Cancer can occur in any part of the body.
-  **Cancer makes your hair fall out – False.**
Cancer does not cause hair loss. But some cancer treatments such as radiotherapy and chemotherapy can cause side effects including hair loss. Any hair lost during the treatment will almost always grow back, sometimes a different texture or colour.

Some ideas on how your Company can get involved...



Teaching Toolkit

Order your toolkit, it contains everything you need to give young people the facts about cancer they need. We want to help them to make informed lifestyle choices and create a more sensitive and cancer-aware society.



Order your toolkit at <http://bit.ly/1ASsCwn>



Match 4 Macmillan

Match 4 Macmillan couldn't be simpler: play a match in whatever sport or activity you like, and raise money to help people affected by cancer. It can be absolutely any sort of match: football, rugby, tennis, cricket, dominoes, snakes and ladders - the choice is yours.



Go Mad, Go Green

Ditch the blue (your uniform) and wear green for an evening. Whether it be a green tie, green socks, green hair. We've got some fantastic green curly wigs. Ask your young people to donate £2 to get involved. You could select a winner for the greenest participant.



Mammoth Quiz

The Mammoth Quiz is Macmillan's nationwide quiz, and holds the Guinness World Record for the world's largest simultaneous quiz. We are looking for groups across the UK to host a quiz on Friday 27th February 2015.

And we need you to help make the 2015 Macmillan Quiz the biggest and best yet.

It costs £10 to sign up to host a Mammoth Quiz. You'll then be sent everything you need: a 2015 quiz, fundraising materials, tips for organising your quiz and a bit of information about Macmillan.



Enterprise Stand

Have a stand at the local market or community hall selling yummy treats your young people have made. Cakes, biscuits, home-made ice creams, soft drinks. Donate the profits to Macmillan. You can have dedicated roles on the till handling the funds and monitoring profits with others as the dedicated sales team.

We're not mathematicians but a simple equation we like to remember at Macmillan is:

SMALL AMOUNTS $\times$ **LOTS OF PEOPLE** = **MANY LIVES CHANGED**



To get involved in any of the above activities get in touch with our fundraising team:
Call 0300 1000 200 or
Email fundraising@macmillan.org.uk



Lots more information can be found at macmillan.org.uk

Anyone with questions about cancer can call the Macmillan Support Line free on

0808 808 00 00
(Mon–Fri, 9am–8pm).



APPROVED CAMPSITES

The following sites have been officially approved, having met Guidelines laid down by the Brigade, and local Fire and Public Health Authorities.

Auchengillan Outdoor Centre in the Central Scottish Highlands offers camping and modern indoor accommodation. There are many challenging and adventurous activities (on and off-site) and lots of places of interest to visit.

Contact:

 01360 770256
 centre@auchengillan.com
 www.auchengillan.com

Norfolk / Felden Lodge Campsites

2015/2016 BB canvas campsites (operated by 10th Enfield) fully equipped for up to 70 (smaller camps welcome) in West Runton (North Norfolk) and at BBUK HQ (Hertfordshire).

Contact:

 Chris Norman on 07703 571915
 chris@boys-brigade.org.uk
 10enfield.boys-brigade.org.uk

Honeyhill Camp (NW Kent Battalion) 12 acres Bearsted Maidstone. Open from Easter to October. Small and large camps welcome. Showers, toilets, building with large kitchen, sports facilities. Canvas for hire or bring your own.

Contact:

 Andy Foster on 07946 163176
 honeyhill@boys-brigade.org.uk
 honeyhill.boys-brigade.org.uk

West Midland District Camping Centre, Dyffryn Ardudwy 3 fully equipped canvas sites available for mixed camps. Main centre site caters up to 90 people with dormitory accommodation for 40. 2 smaller sites cater up to 50 people.

Contact:

 Jamie Copson on 01905 480 955
 info@bbcamping.co.uk
 www.bbcamping.co.uk

Vectis Youth Camps. Whitecliff Bay, Isle of Wight. Two self-contained campsites with permanent kitchens, showers and toilets. All tenting equipment included. Ideal for organised camps of between 25 and 250 people for weekend and weeklong camps.

Contact:

 Dettie Quirke on 07582 429929
 info@vectisyouthcamps.org

Craggan Outdoor Centre, on the shores of Loch Tay, Perthshire. A great Centre for camps of all ages, with disabled access, sleeps 29 and is self-catering. Ideal for outdoor and water activities with own canoes and jetty.

Contact:

 0131 551 1200 ext 20
 craggan@thebb-edinburgh.org.uk

Coopers Mead Campsite, Whitecliff Bay, Isle of Wight. Traditional camping at its very best and at a reasonable cost! Weeks available for 2015, 2016 and beyond.

Contact:

 Ted Walliss 01737 352732
 edwardwalliss@btinternet.com

Broadleas, Haytor, Devon Indoor sleeps 30, 2 staff bedrooms sleep 5. Showers etc. kitchen, dining hall. Camping for 55. Tents provided. Equipped kitchen, dining hall, showers etc. Outdoor pool, large hall.

Contact:

 Diana Dale on 01452 615072
 broadleas@boys-brigade.org.uk
 broadleas.boys-brigade.org.uk

Popular BB approved campsite at **Freshwater, Isle Of Wight.** Fully equipped for 60 (approx), canvas tents/marquee, purpose built toilet block, cookhouse. Minimum charge 20 campers. Close to safe sandy beaches and leisure centre. Enquiries contact John Osborn.

Contact:

 07796 177795
 info@freshwatertrust.com
 www.freshwatertrust.com

Bromley Battalion Campsite, Whitecliff Bay, IoW. Large & small marquees, traditional ridge tents. Purpose built cookhouse/QM; shower/flush toilet block (male/female) mains gas. At "best value" prices. Takes up to 120 people.

Contact:

 Keith Francis on 01474 705485
 bromley_campsite@outlook.com
 bbcampsite.co.uk

Warcombe Farm Youth Camping, Mortehoe, North Devon

Self-catering group camping for up to 100 people available from April to September. Showers, toilets and cookhouse in purpose built barn plus timber frame marquee (60'x40')

Contact:

 Lynda Hill on 01256 764410
 info@warcombe.org.uk
 www.warcombe.org.uk

Brixham 2015 (1st Yeovil BB) Fully equipped for 80. White canvas ridge tents/marquee. Only 2 dates left available including 8th to 15th August and 22nd to 29th August 2015.

Contact:

 Graham Voizey on 01935 422292
 graham.voizey@btinternet.com

CAMPING/HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Near Blackpool at Kirkham in the Rural Fylde North West District. Training & Activity Centre provides excellent indoor self-catering accommodation. Centenary Hall 44. Stedfast Lodge 16 plus a camping field and sports hall.

Contact:

Wardens, The Boys' Brigade, Carr Lane, Treales, Kirkham PR4 3SS

 01772 685000
 office@bb-northwest.org.uk
 www.bb-northwest.org.uk

Rock Uk Adventure Centres. Bring your Company/Battalion to one of our spacious adventure centres. Carrotty Wood in Kent, Frontier Centre in Northants, Summit Centre

in South Wales and Whithaugh Park in the Scottish Borders.

Contact:

 0844 8000 222
 sales.info@rockuk.org
 www.rockuk.org

Well Road Centre, Moffat, Scotland. Fully equipped self-catering for up to 70. 13 bedrooms. Separate shower/toilet areas. 2 meeting rooms, spacious kitchen and dining room. Indoor games hall.

Contact:

 01683 221040
 ben8363@aol.com
 www.wellroadcentre.co.uk

Greenmoor Residential Centre, Reopened after extensive refurbishment. Flexible sleeping in 6 rooms for 30 Accessible facilities Lounge Dining Room Kitchen 3 showers toilets washroom games room staff room projection equipment heating 15 minutes M1 and dark peak

Contact:

 07760111615 (Mark Boswell)
 07930177764 (Tony Drury-Smith)
 sheffield.boys-brigade.org.uk/
 greenmoor.htm

Dyffryn Campsite, Nr Barmouth, Nth Wales. Fully equipped for up to 60 people, operated by 1st Nth Wales Company. Purpose built cookhouse, dining hall, & shower/toilet block, with traditional ridge tents & caravan on site.

Contact:

 01978 761105
 admin@caergwrlebb.org.uk
 www.caergwrlebb.org.uk

The Albert Wilson Memorial Field, Prestatyn, North Wales - Two camping areas each with cookhouses/toilets/shower. One field is suitable for up to 36, and our main field with new refurbished cookhouse for larger groups. Marquee and Tents available.

Contact:

 bookings@prestatyncampsite.co.uk
 www.prestatyncampsite.co.uk

Abernethy Adventure Centres. Visit one of our 4 Outdoor Adventure Centres in Scotland with your Battalion/Company for an activity filled all inclusive weekend. Visit the weekends section of our website for more information

Contact:

 Karen Edmondson on 01479 818005
 marketing@abernethy.org.uk
 www.abernethy.org.uk

Christian Mountain Centre, North Wales.

Can provide residential accom. or just activities for your BB camp. Try anything from archery to climbing, paddleboarding to gorge walking (a BB favourite). On the coast near Dyffryn Ardudwy.

Contact:

 01341 241718
 office@cmcadventure.org.uk
 www.cmcadventure.org.uk

Broomley Grange North of England District Camping & (fully catered) Residential Outdoor Activity Centre set in 22 acres of grounds. We offer a wide range of activities and plan the programme around you! + DoFE Gold Residential.

Contact:

 01661 842299
 manager@broomleygrange.co.uk
 www.broomleygrange.co.uk

Swanage Methodist Church. Excellent accommodation for BB holidays/indoor camps. Well equipped hall, smaller rooms, showers, kitchen, youth room, WIFI & car park. Participation of BB groups in all age services very welcome.

Contact:

 Ralph Lewis on 01929 422421
 ralph@swanagemethodist.org.uk
 www.swanagemethodist.org.uk

Small advertisements copy for Campsites, Residential/Activity Centre's and items wanted or for sale should be sent to **gazette@boys-brigade.org.uk**. Advertisements for the next issue (Spring 2015) should be received by 1st February 2015. All advertisements are based on up to 225 characters (including spaces and punctuation) plus contact details (telephone number, email and website address) at a cost of £10 per issue.

Honeyhill Camping/Activity Centre honeyhill.boys-brigade.org.uk



Bearsted, Maidstone Kent ME14 4PW



Honeyhill Camping and Activity Centre is set in 11 acres of woodland adjacent to the M20 motorway and is screened by tree belt and fence, it is remote from the nearest houses and 100m from Thurnham Lane accessed via metalled and gated driveway.

The facilities are open from April to October for bookings of a week, weekends, a day or overnight. NEW 2014: Traversing Wall and solid base for the Marquee. **There is a building containing -**

- a fully-fitted kitchen with gas cookers, fridges and freezer.
- cooking utensils
- crockery and cutlery for 100 tables & chairs
- dining/activity room
- toilet & showers (male & female)

Marquees, Ridge Tents and other equipment are available for hire.

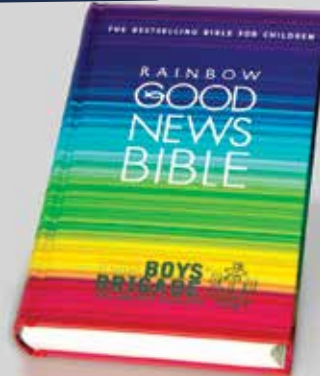
Nearby attractions include museums, Dover Castle, Canterbury Cathedral, Chatham Dockyard, South-East coastal resorts, and a good train service to London. Also walks on the North Downs, and a local park with swimming pool. Canoeing can be arranged at the N.West Kent Battalion Seamanship Center in Tonbridge.

For more information contact Andy Foster.
 Tel: 07946163176 | Email: honeyhill@boys-brigade.org.uk

GOOD NEWS RAINBOW BIBLE

Product: 353650

A bright, lively edition of the UK's bestselling Bible, perfect for helping children to enjoy and engage with the Bible. Ideal for the Anchor & Junior Section age groups.



£18

BIRTHDAY CARDS

Product: 315161



£6.50

Pack of 10 cards featuring cartoon design and BB logo complete with envelopes.

STAR TROPHY

Product: 035601



£4.30

Rigid black and gold star with BB emblem in the centre with space for engraving plate.

DARTINGTON WIBBLE BOWL

Product: 119851



£40

Handmade crystal glass bowl (260mm diameter / Large) ideal as a gift or for a presentation.

2015 POCKET DIARY

Product: 315941



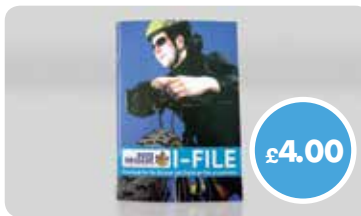
NOW
£2.00

A pocket diary, with week to view for 2015 calendar year.

Usually £4.00

I-FILE HANDBOOK

Product: 311481



£4.00

Handbook for those in Company Section/Seniors (11 to 18 years old).

BALLOONS

Product: 116791



£4.75

Pack of 25 navy blue metallic balloons with BB logo and website address printed on 2 sides.

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Order your items online 24 hours a day. Visit shop.boys-brigade.org.uk



Order your items by telephone on 08707 442 292 (Mon to Fri)



Also available at local depots around the UK (See Supplies Catalogue or Website)